UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/849
S/25042
4 January 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 143
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA
AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 30 December 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 47/121 on 18 December 1992, and especially its provision under paragraph 5, as well as the numerous unfounded attempts to equate the Croatian Defence Council (HVO) forces and the regular army units of the Republic of Croatia, I would like to draw your attention to the statement made by Mr. Mile Akmadzic, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 24 December 1992.

Prime Minister Akmadzic stated that "the armed forces of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and HVO are not two separate armies, but the armed forces of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina consist of two equal forces - the Bosnia-Herzegovina army and HVO". Mr. Akmadzic stated that "there is cooperation between the HVO units and some neighbouring units of the Croatian army" and "if the HVO asks Croatian army units to help us in some operations, then it means that we really need this help and that the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, its Presidency and its Assembly agree with this".

Allow me to emphasize that, in accordance with resolution 47/121, if the units of the Croatian army were to be temporarily present in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, they would be operating in accord with the authority of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This fact, which underlines the spirit of the Agreement on Friendship and Cooperation between the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia (signed in Zagreb on 21 July 1992) and its annex (signed in New York on 23 September 1992), is also confirmed by the highest authorities of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The relationship

between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is founded on the principles of mutual recognition and full respect of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the two Member States of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative